

TO: Senate Judiciary committee members

RE: SB 1560

I am totally lost as to where to begin. My son has done everything that has been asked of him yet time and time again new laws have come down and his responsibilities increase and limitations are added. It has been eight years since he was first charged and convicted. Since that time he has overcome so much adversity only to get to this point and be thrown to the wolves. For a period he was suicidal because it was almost impossible for him to get a job. He was able to get his record expunged in 2009. This made it a little easier to find work but I'm doubtful if he will keep his job if employer's names have to be listed on the public registry. He was married in September yet still resides with us because housing is limited due to price and location. Government subsidized apartments are out of the question because of him being a sex offender. My daughter's fiancé kicked her out and she and her son had to move back with us. Now we live in fear that her ex will use the fact that she is living with a registered sex offender in order to gain custody and get out of support payments. The listing of license plates would put all three of our vehicle plates on-line as well as his wife's. I fear this would put my grandson in harm's way as his mother uses our vehicles too. I know this state is in financial distress but please, before you rush into making any changes to the sex offender registry, do a little research and make the changes based on actual facts and not hyped up hysteria.

My son has no criminal record now, but still has to register, and as of now falls into either the tier 2 or 3 level. If we are not going to trust the judgment of our local prosecutors and judges when HYTA and expungements are granted what good are they. A career criminal would never be able to have all records expunged and HYTA status would be revoked if other crimes are committed. These people pose no threat to humanity.

What good is a court judgment if additional fines or limits can be put on someone anytime after the case is over? If people knew what was going to be expected of them in the future would they so willingly accept a plea agreement. Our son was looking at 15 years min. One year if he accepted the plea. As a parent what would you do if it was your 17 year old?

Before you become blindsided by the Byrne Grant Funding please take into consideration the additional pain and suffering it will put on the children and families of those registered. Compare the money we would gain against the money it would cost this state if 40,000 people lose all chances to work and are forced onto the welfare rolls in order to house and feed their children.

I developed early in life and at 13 I was groped by my older cousins. I thank God these laws were not in the books then because both of those who assaulted me have children and grandchildren of their own now. I fail to see how any good could have come out of me telling anyone. Teenagers do stupid things. Let's not turn them into social lepers because of one lapse of judgment.

Cindy